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Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) today issued the following statement on President Obama's proposal to freeze the pay of federal, nonmilitary employees:

"I appreciate the President's newfound willingness to get spending under control, especially after he and other Washington Democrats spent the last two years piling up the largest deficits in history.

"While President Obama's proposal to freeze pay for federal employees is a good start, it does not go far enough to turn back the massive expansion in the size, scope and budget of the federal government we have seen in the last two years. In 2008, federal spending per household was \$25,000. Today, it's \$31,000, and under President Obama's most recent budget, it would reach \$36,000 by 2020. That is unsustainable.

"President Obama says his proposal would save approximately \$28 billion over the next five years. While that is significant, it barely makes a dent in the trillion dollar deficits Democrats compiled in each of the last two years. I have proposed freezing discretionary, nondefense spending at pre-2008 levels and setting strict caps on spending, which would save \$1.5 trillion over the next 10 years. I hope President Obama will consider this further-reaching proposal."

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